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Approved For Release 2001/04/01 : CIA-RDP83-00500R000100020001-1
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 12 January 1959

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report -- December 1958

1. A note for CTS: A "Directory of Russian Medical and Biological Research Institutes of the USSR" is in the process of publication by Soviet authorities. Let's not translate this one.

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2. Security clearance difficulty: After six months a US Navy lieutenant was approved for [REDACTED] work. Problem of utilizing his abilities -- he's now stationed in Antarctica!

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[REDACTED] reports are widely circulated. We have indications from USIA that [REDACTED] reports have reached Rumania and Laos (for US representatives' use).

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3. We finally made our mark in December: with our on-duty personnel one below our [REDACTED] ceiling. First time since 1955.

4. Processing of "Pandora's Box" documents from the Far East was agreed upon in discussion between Mr. Bagnall and General Draper of USARPAC on 2 December. Army, Air Force, and FDD will split up the job within their capabilities and the field organizations have been alerted to this arrangement.

5. A 220-page report on all aspects of origin, organization, and objectives of the "Communes" program in China has been prepared by Far East Branch. The community seems pretty much agog about this, the DD/P area alone requesting 350 copies. Publication date: 14 January.

6. The DD/P extra trial period to show improvement in its use of the FDD Linguist Service in "L" Building showed negative again. We closed this outpost on 17 December.

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7. A report headed "Radio Free Europe; Munich, Office of the Political Advisor, Background Information (Hungary)" bears the same title as a Special Feature in FDD Eastern Europe Press Survey (21): "The Hungarian Writers in 1958." Aside from a brief introduction, it happens to be the same article. One difference noted was that the "pirate" disagreed with FDD's translation of the adjective "folk" and substituted "populist" throughout.

8. We believe the CTS saved better than \$50,000 for the IB agencies during December. Reference to the Index prevented duplication of 10,115 pages.

9. [REDACTED] has been negotiating with Procurement Division, OL, to solve the problem of [REDACTED] supply. This results in the right of the Field Office to requisition directly from GSA/NY.

10. Christmas shopping took its toll of the voluntary overtime: 144 hours for Headquarters; 42 hours for DC.

Something in the way of Christmas presents was represented by \$1,000 distributed among seven FDD people in the form of language awards.

11. The Legislative Counsel several times indicated that Congressional Committees had found the Ponomarev article on International Communism from the October Kommunist, issued as a crash FDD Translation No. 720, to be of great interest.

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J. J. BAGNALL

Enclosures:

1. Statistical Report on FDD Operations
2. Details of Personnel Actions